Feb. 4th "Who hath despised the day of small things"

Intr - The tendency of electricity to ignore distance, & applied the familiar things of the commonplace, the exceptional the extraordinary attract us. "All the strangers and the strangers which are there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing." It is the new thing, the strange thing that interests us in politics, in fashion, in invention.

But "God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world and things which are despised hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not to bring to nought the things which are." The greatest & best things are not the most spectacular. The roots of things are hidden

21

Lights + streets

Strength of good - not in armys + navys
but in the loyalty + obedience of the
people to the principles of justice + right

Strength of City not in retired or tired
or sermons, but in the simple, true
lives of its humble followers.

Everybody goes to fire! Nobody
thanks God for the many houses
that have not burned!

Football game adventure college -
but class room, laboratory, + library
make the school rebated + is.

Neither platform nor pulpit is a
power apart from study + solitude
+ secrecy.

Politicians may create a stir, but
the common vote determines the
election.

Capitalists, with all their wealth, are
powerless without the workingmen.

Too often we honor the talking ones
+ forget the mere workers; look up
to the man who comes + looks down upon the man who grows it.

3 Id is the commonplace
of the old, that is of real worth,
Here may sparkle but nothing generate
Should like nuts
Gold may glow but never is more
useful
Diamonds may dazzle, but common
coal is of greater service to
mankind,
Precarious and fearsome may be
beautiful, but the common
Soil of the country produceth
bread,
The most perfect things we have are made
out of the commonplace
Soil from fields, trees from forests,
raiment from plant animal, or mineral.
Water — from common flowing streams
Self — the image of a person!
Our aim should not be to get away
from the commonplace, but to glorify it
This is what Jesus did
Jesus lifted common toil to a place of dignity
He saw beauty in the flowers of Palestine should
even the sparrow the object of divine care
Bird baggage were like shepherds and sheep
and He saw a Parable
He instituted the Memorial Supper with bread & wine

4)

Ide transformed the cross of shame into
a cross of glory and the tomb
of death into the gateway to Paradise
Jesus drew his lessons from the examples
of life - heaven, mustardseed,
sheep, fish, birds, water, money,
wind, customs, washing dishes,
mending garments, sweeping a room,
making a supper, sowing, reaping,
buying, selling, building houses,
traveling, trading - tending sheep.
Jesus sought out commonplace people
& drew commonplace men for his disciples
Nearly all his miracles wrought on behalf
of ordinary people.
Jesus taught commonplace truths. He
made plain the mysteries of the kingdom
of heaven so a child can understand them
Sermon on the mount a simple statement
of fact.
The parables are all plain pictures
all things of beauty are made out of
the commonplace
Michaelangelo - clay - fresco - Sistine Chapel
masterpieces of music - combinations of common sounds

5)

most sublime hymn - made up
of ordinary words
and so life is made up, not of
great sacrifices, deed emotions,
marvelous deeds, high attainments
of martyr escapes, but of the every
commonplace of sunshine & shadow.

X

"It takes a life of woes and joys,
Of taking and of giving,
Of smiles and tears, of hopes and fears,
To learn that life's worth living."

Our life-work is to build out of
the common experience a christlife
character, out of the common duties
of life a true home, out of the
every-day acquaintances of life
the bond of friendship and out
of the ordinary duties & tasks
would that is art.

a rake, hoe, a spade, some seed, a
plot of ground, sun & sunshine - garden
the old fashion Bible, the old fashioned
faith, the simple, sincere prayer -
and of these one can bring forth
life divine!

If a little civility, a little sincerity,
some old-fashioned chivalry,
and a bit of true courtesy transformed
life from misery & melancholy
to sweetness & smiles & sunshine.
Commonplace honesty gives
stability to character & integrity to
business.
A little interest in others lifts
dead books that are heavy to bear.
A little genuine sympathy makes
brotherhood possible.
A little tenderness in forgiving &
forbearing turns enemies into friends.
Let us not despise these common graces.
If God has chosen them, shall we
not use them? read how

"God bless the commonplace! We strain and fret
Through wearisome and unproductive days
Striving to carve new destinies and blaze
A trail through unaccustomed lands. We let
The feverish years possess us, and forget,
In our tense seeking for untrodden ways,
The common heritage. Nor care to raise
Aitars to dear familiar things—and yet
When shadows lengthen and the busy hum
Of life falls faintly on half hearing ears,
With vision dimmed and feeble step we come,
Back to the homely joys of bygone years—
Love and a hearthstone and a dear, worn face,
And through our tears we bless the commonplace."

—*Blanche Goodwin.*

It was Waller—the imperturbable, drawling Chonnewollie—who stood with his back to the house, slowly swinging his cane, his feet set wide apart, as he watched the afternoon procession of the automobiles of the great and wealthy.

"Everybody in Washington quits work at half-past four in the afternoon," Waller remarked, swinging into step with him toward Dupont Circle. "That is, everybody who goes to work at all. It's the easiest, laziest city north of Jacksonville."

Smith remembered that walk for many months—his answers to Waller's questions, his memory of the woman swaying in the doorway, the greetings of the men and women who passed him, his overwhelming sense of sorrow that he had refused the confidence Edith had asked, the children playing in the Circle, his calculation of what to say to give the best impetus to his fight—all of it stayed in his mind for a long time, a phantasmagoria of pain.

"Congress will be in session eight more days," Waller w saying. "Let's give them all we've got during that time. Fi of all, I want to print a story in the morning giving your theory about *this li*